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October 5, 2022

To the Cloverdale Unified School District Community,

On behalf of the CUSD Board of Education, I am writing to share news regarding an important decision that the Board made at the Monday, October 3, 2022 Board meeting.

Many members of our community are aware of an investigation and related employment matters that have impacted Washington School. For the past 7 months, our community has been deeply divided over this situation.

In a unanimous vote of support, the Board took action to bring the ongoing, sometimes public, conflict with the former Washington School principal to a close. The Board has now reached an agreement with the former principal to settle these matters, which have torn at our community and wasted school resources. The terms of this agreement are a matter of public record. When the minutes are approved by the Board, the Board's report out of the terms of that agreement are also a public record.

Parting ways is both the fiscally and operationally responsible decision. It puts an end to the concerns of the Board once and for all and ceases legal spending on this matter. The settlement agreement includes the employee's irrevocable resignation.

The Board is fully aware that this situation has been painfully challenging for our tight-knit community. Please understand that the Board is severely restricted in the information it may provide to the public regarding employment matters, including this one. We know that absent all the facts, rumors and misinformation often fill in the gaps; however, the Board cannot and will not violate employment confidentiality laws in this or other employment situations.

The Board believes that our decision to reach an agreement will finally allow us to move forward. The Board is fully focused on student and staff needs, and working collaboratively with our dedicated employees, families, and community supporters who are all committed to ensuring that we provide the best possible education to our students.

Respectfully,

Jacque Garrison
Board President,
On behalf of all CUSD Board of Trustees

